# CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the method:
comprising at least two of the steps of
enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,
enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and
enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and
further comprising the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.
4. A method for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the method comprising the steps of:
enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and
computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.
5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.
6. The method of Claim 4, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.
7. The method of Claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
enumerating data subsets that are unreadable;
enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected; and
computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.
8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are unreadable, thereby enumerating the unreadable data subsets;

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are erroneously read and uncorrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets; and

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

9. A method for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the method comprising the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and measuring an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein the over-sampled rating is determined by performing the steps of:

computing a time interval for reading the data subset at a pre-determined readout rate;

measuring a time interval required for reading the data subset at the pre-determined readout rate; and

computing the over-sampled rating using the measured time interval and the computed time interval.

13. The method of Claim 9, wherein the over-sampled rating is determined by performing the steps of:

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets;

logging the number of re-reads required to correct erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets; and

computing the over-sampled rating using the numbers of re-reads.

14. The method of Claim 9, wherein:

the over-sampled rating is determined by performing the steps of

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets,

logging the number of re-reads required to correct erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets, and

computing the over-sampled rating using the numbers of re-reads;

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are unreadable, thereby enumerating the unreadable data subsets;

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are erroneously read and uncorrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets, and the over-sampled rating.

15. An apparatus for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the apparatus comprising:

a readout device adapted for reading the data set recorded on the storage medium; and

a programmed processor operatively coupled to the readout device, the processor being programmed for performing at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

wherein the processor is further programmed for computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

16. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.

17. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.

18. An apparatus for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the apparatus comprising:
a readout device adapted for reading the data set recorded on the storage medium; and
a programmed processor operatively coupled to the readout device, the processor being programmed for
enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and
computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

19. The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.

20. The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.

21. The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the processor is further programmed for:
enumerating data subsets that are unreadable;
enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected; and
computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

22. The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the processor is further programmed for:
identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are unreadable, thereby enumerating the unreadable data subsets;
identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are erroneously read and uncorrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets; and
identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

23. An apparatus for quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on a storage medium, the recorded data set including error-correction codes, the apparatus comprising:
a readout device adapted for reading the data set recorded on the storage medium; and
a programmed processor operatively coupled to the readout device, the processor being programmed for

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

measuring an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

24. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the storage medium comprises a CD.

25. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the storage medium comprises a DVD.

26. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein processor is programmed for determining the over-sampled rating by:

computing a time interval for reading the data subset at a pre-determined readout rate;

measuring a time interval required for reading the data subset at the pre-determined readout rate; and

computing the over-sampled rating using the measured time interval and the computed time interval.

27. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the processor is programmed for determining the over-sampled rating by:

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets;

logging the number of re-reads required to correct erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets; and

computing the over-sampled rating using the numbers of re-reads.

28. The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the processor is further programmed for:

determining the over-sampled rating by

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets,

logging the number of re-reads required to correct erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets, and

computing the over-sampled rating using the numbers of re-reads;

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are unreadable, thereby enumerating the unreadable data subsets;

identifying and logging data subsets within the data set that are erroneously read and uncorrected, thereby enumerating the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets, and the over-sampled rating.

29. A method for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the method comprising the steps of:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information for the data product from a data product inventory database, order information for the data product in a data product order database, and previous purchase and re-sale information for the data product from a data product sales database;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

determining a re-sale price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to a buyer of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information; and

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

31. The method of Claim 29, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

32. The method of Claim 29, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

33. The method of Claim 29, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

34. The method of Claim 29, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

35. The method of Claim 29, further comprising the step of prompting a user to enter data product information for the data product into the data product information database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

36. The method of Claim 29, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the method further comprises at least one of the steps of

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting a user to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting a user to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting a user to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

37. The method of Claim 29, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the method further comprises the steps of analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

38. The method of Claim 29, further comprising the step of enabling the buyer independently to quantitatively evaluate the integrity of the data set recorded on a re-sold data product and to compute the data integrity rating for the re-sold data product, thereby enabling the buyer to verify the data integrity rating of the re-sold data product and compare it to re-seller-reported data integrity rating.

39. A method for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the method comprising the steps of:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the

data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information for the data product from a data product inventory database, order information for the data product in a data product order database, and previous purchase and re-sale information for the data product from a data product sales database;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

determining a re-sale price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to a buyer of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information; and

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer,

wherein:

the databases receive information from multiple independent data product re-sellers;

the multiple independent product re-sellers may access the databases; and

a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers may be made available for re-sale to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers.

40. The method of Claim 39, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

41. The method of Claim 39, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

42. The method of Claim 39, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

43. The method of Claim 39, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

44. The method of Claim 39, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

45. The method of Claim 39, wherein the databases are accessible online to the multiple re-sellers.

46. The method of Claim 39, wherein the identity of the first one of the re-sellers may be concealed from the buyer.

47. The method of Claim 39, wherein one of the multiple re-sellers may select which others of the multiple re-sellers may offer for re-sale to buyers data products purchased by the one of the multiple retailers.

48. The method of Claim 39, wherein one of the multiple re-sellers may select from which others of the multiple re-sellers to offer for re-sale to buyers data products purchased by the others of the multiple retailers.

49. The method of Claim 39, wherein a data product purchased by the first one of the multiple re-sellers and re-sold to a buyer by the second one of the multiple re-sellers may be shipped from the first one of the re-sellers to the second one of the re-sellers for subsequent delivery to the buyer.

50. The method of Claim 39, wherein a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers and re-sold to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers may be shipped from the first one of the re-sellers directly to the buyer.

51. The method of Claim 39, wherein:

a buyer may submit to a re-seller a bid for a requested data product, the bid including at least one of a desired re-sale price and a desired data integrity rating; and

the bid thus submitted may be entered into the data product order database.

52. A method for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the method comprising the steps of:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information for the data product from a data product inventory database, order information for the data product in a data product order database, and previous purchase and re-sale information for the data product from a data product sales database;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer,

wherein:

the databases receive information from multiple independent data product re-sellers;

the multiple independent product re-sellers may access the databases;

a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers may be made available for re-sale to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers;

the multiple re-sellers may deliver purchased data products to a pre-owned data product distributor;

the distributor may access and update at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information; and

a data product re-sold to a buyer by a re-seller may be delivered from the distributor.

53. The method of Claim 52, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

54. The method of Claim 52, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

55. The method of Claim 52, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

56. The method of Claim 52, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

57. The method of Claim 52, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

58. The method of Claim 52, wherein the databases are accessible online to the multiple re-sellers and the distributor.

59. The method of Claim 52, wherein the distributor may request delivery of selected data products from the multiple re-sellers, the data products being selected based on at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information.

60. A system for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the system:

comprises at least one of

a data product information database containing data product information,

a data product inventory data base containing inventory information,

a data product order database containing order information, and

a data product sales database containing sales information;

and further comprises

a readout device adapted for reading a data set recorded on the data product, and

a programmed processor operatively linked to the databases and the readout device,

wherein the processor is programmed for:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in the data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of the data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

determining a re-sale price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to a buyer of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information; and

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer.

61. The system of Claim 60, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

62. The system of Claim 60, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

63. The system of Claim 60, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

64. The system of Claim 60, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

65. The system of Claim 60, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

66. The system of Claim 60, wherein the processor is further programmed for prompting a user to enter data product information for the data product into the data product information database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

67. The system of Claim 60, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the processor is further programmed for

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting a user to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting a user to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting a user to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

68. The system of Claim 60, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the processor is further programmed for analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

69. The system of Claim 60, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling the buyer independently to quantitatively evaluate the integrity of the data set recorded on a re-sold data product and to compute the data integrity rating for the re-sold data product, thereby enabling the buyer to verify the data integrity rating of the re-sold data product and compare it to re-seller-reported data integrity rating.

70. A system for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the system:

comprises at least one of

a data product information database containing data product information,

a data product inventory data base containing inventory information,

a data product order database containing order information, and

a data product sales database containing sales information;

and further comprises

a readout device adapted for reading a data set recorded on the data product, and

a programmed processor operatively linked to the databases and the readout device,

wherein the processor is programmed for:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in the data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of the data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

determining a re-sale price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to a buyer of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer;

enabling the databases to receive information from multiple independent data product re-sellers;

enabling the multiple independent product re-sellers to access the databases; and

enabling a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers to be made available for re-sale to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers.

71. The system of Claim 70, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

72. The system of Claim 70, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

73. The system of Claim 70, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

74. The system of Claim 70, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

75. The system of Claim 70, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

76. The system of Claim 70, wherein the databases are accessible online to the multiple re-sellers.

77. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling concealment of the identity of the first one of the re-sellers from the buyer.

78. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling one of the multiple re-sellers to select which others of the multiple re-sellers may offer for re-sale to buyers data products purchased by the one of the multiple retailers.

79. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling one of the multiple re-sellers to select from which others of the multiple re-sellers to offer for re-sale to buyers data products purchased by the others of the multiple retailers.

80. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling a data product purchased by the first one of the multiple re-sellers and re-sold to a buyer by the second one of the multiple re-sellers to be shipped from the first one of the re-sellers to the second one of the re-sellers for subsequent delivery to the buyer.

81. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers and re-sold to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers to be shipped from the first one of the re-sellers directly to the buyer.

82. The system of Claim 70, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling:

a buyer to submit to a re-seller a bid for a requested data product, the bid including at least one of a desired re-sale price and a desired data integrity rating; and

the bid thus submitted to be entered into the data product sales database.

83. A system for acquisition, evaluation, inventory, distribution, and re-sale of pre-owned recorded data products by a data product re-seller, the system:

comprises at least one of

a data product information database containing data product information,

a data product inventory data base containing inventory information,

a data product order database containing order information, and

a data product sales database containing sales information;

and further comprises

a readout device adapted for reading a data set recorded on the data product, and

a programmed processor operatively linked to the databases and the readout device,

wherein the processor is programmed for:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in the data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of the data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a purchase price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to the owner of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating inventory information in response to a purchase of the data product from the owner by the re-seller;

determining a re-sale price for the data product to be offered by the re-seller to a buyer of the data product, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to a re-sale of the data product by the re-seller to the buyer;

enabling the databases to receive information from multiple independent data product re-sellers;

enabling the multiple independent product re-sellers to access the databases;

enabling a data product purchased by a first one of the multiple re-sellers to be made available for re-sale to a buyer by a second one of the multiple re-sellers;

enabling the multiple re-sellers to deliver purchased data products to a pre-owned data product distributor;

enabling the distributor to access and update at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information; and

enabling a data product re-sold to a buyer by a re-seller to be delivered from the distributor.

84. The system of Claim 83, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

85. The system of Claim 83, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

86. The system of Claim 83, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

87. The system of Claim 83, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

88. The system of Claim 83, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

89. The system of Claim 83, wherein the databases are accessible online to the multiple re-sellers.

90. The system of Claim 83, wherein the processor is further programmed for enabling the distributor to request delivery of selected data products from the multiple re-sellers, the data products being selected based on at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information.

91. A method for evaluation and sale of a pre-owned recorded data product by an owner of the data product to a buyer, the method comprising the steps of:

reading data from a data product offered for sale by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a sale price for the data product to be offered by the owner to the buyer, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the data product, inventory information for the data product from a data product inventory database, order information for the data product in a data product order database, and previous purchase and re-sale information for the data product from a data product sales database;

updating inventory information in response to an offer to sell the data product by the owner; and

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to sale of the data product by the owner to the buyer.

92. The method of Claim 91, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

93. The method of Claim 91, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

94. The method of Claim 91, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

95. The method of Claim 91, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

96. The method of Claim 91, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

97. The method of Claim 91, further comprising the step of prompting the owner to enter data product information for the data product into the data product information database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

98. The method of Claim 91, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the method further comprises at least one of the steps of

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting the owner to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

99. The method of Claim 91, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the method further comprises the steps of analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

100. The method of Claim 91, wherein the owner and the buyer may access the databases online.

101. A system for evaluation and sale of a pre-owned recorded data product by an owner of the data product to a buyer, the system:

comprises at least one of

a data product information database containing data product information,

a data product inventory data base containing inventory information,

a data product order database containing order information, and

a data product sales database containing sales information;

and further comprises

a readout device adapted for reading a data set recorded on the data product, and

a programmed processor operatively linked to the databases and the readout device,

wherein the processor is programmed for:

reading data from a data product offered by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in the data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of the data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

determining a sale price for the data product to be offered by the owner to the buyer, the purchase price being determined based on at least one of the data integrity rating for the

data product, inventory information, order information, and previous purchase and re-sale information;

updating inventory information in response to an offer to sell the data product by the owner; and

updating at least one of inventory information, order information, and sales information in response to sale of the data product by the owner to the buyer.

102. The system of Claim 101, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

103. The system of Claim 101, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

104. The system of Claim 101, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

105. The system of Claim 101, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

106. The system of Claim 101, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

107. The system of Claim 101, wherein the processor is further programmed for prompting a user to enter data product information for the data product into the data product information

database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

108. The system of Claim 101, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the processor is further programmed for

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting the owner to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

109. The system of Claim 101, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the processor is further programmed for analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

110. The system of Claim 101, wherein the owner and the buyer may access the databases online.

111. A method for generating a data product information database, comprising the steps of:

reading data from a data product owned by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

providing the data integrity rating to the owner; and

storing additional data product information read from the data product in the data product information database.

112. The method of Claim 111, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

113. The method of Claim 111, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

114. The method of Claim 111, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

115. The method of Claim 111, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

116. The method of Claim 111, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

117. The method of Claim 111, further comprising the step of prompting the owner to enter data product information for the data product into the data product information database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

118. The method of Claim 111, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the method further comprises at least one of the steps of

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting the owner to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

119. The method of Claim 111, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and the data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the method further comprises the steps of analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

120. The method of Claim 111, wherein the data product information database is accessed online.

121. The method of Claim 120, wherein:

a readout device for evaluating the integrity of the data set operatively linked online to the data product information database; and

the additional data product information is transmitted online from the readout device to the data product information database.

122. A system for generating a data product information database, comprising:

a data product information database;

a readout device adapted for reading a data set recorded on the data product; and

a programmed processor operatively linked to the database and the readout device,

wherein the processor is programmed for:

reading data from a data product owned by an owner of the data product;

comparing data read from the data product with data in a data product information database;

identifying the data product, if the data product is identified as being listed in the data product information database;

quantitatively evaluating the integrity of a data set recorded on the data product and computing a data integrity rating for the data product;

providing the data integrity rating to the owner; and

storing additional data product information read from the data product in the data product information database.

123. The system of Claim 122, wherein the data product comprises a CD.

124. The system of Claim 122, wherein the data product comprises a DVD.

125. The system of Claim 122, wherein the evaluating step:

comprises at least two of the steps of

enumerating data subsets that are unreadable,

enumerating data subsets that are erroneously read and uncorrected, and

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

further comprises the step of computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumerations of the unreadable data subsets, the erroneously-read-and-uncorrected data subsets, and the erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

126. The system of Claim 122, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using enumeration of erroneously-read-and-corrected data subsets.

127. The system of Claim 122, wherein the data product includes error correction codes, and the evaluating step comprises the steps of:

enumerating data subsets that are initially erroneously read and subsequently corrected, and

determining an over-sampled rating for the erroneously-read-and-corrected subsets; and

computing a data integrity rating for the data set using at least one of enumeration of the erroneously-read-and-correct data subsets and the over-sampled rating.

128. The system of Claim 122, wherein the processor is further programmed for prompting the owner to enter data product information for the data product into the data product

information database, if the data product is not identified as being listed in the product information database.

129. The system of Claim 122, wherein:

the data product is a music CD and the data product databases are music CD databases, and

the processor is further programmed for

reading and storing in the music CD information database any of track information, title, and artist from the CD that is not already stored in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan cover art of the music CD and storing cover art thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the cover art is not already present in the music CD database,

prompting the owner to scan lyrics of the music CD and storing lyrics thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the lyrics are not already present in the music CD database, and

prompting the owner to scan liner notes of the music CD and storing liner notes thus scanned into the music CD information database, if the liner notes are not already present in the music CD database.

130. The system of Claim 122, wherein:

the data product is a music CD, and the data product information database is a music CD information database; and

the processor is further programmed for analyzing music data recorded on tracks of the music CD to generate unique track identification data therefor and storing the track identification information in the music CD information database, if the track identification information is not already present in the music CD information database.

131. The system of Claim 122, wherein the data product information database is accessed online.

132. The system of Claim 131, wherein:

the readout device for evaluating the integrity of the data set operatively linked online to at least one of the data product information database and the programmed processor; and

the additional data product information is transmitted online from the readout device to the data product information database.